

19 September 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Information Review Officer, DI
Information Review Officer, DO

25X1
FROM:

[REDACTED]
Chief, Classification Review Division
Office of Information Services, DA

SUBJECT: Meeting With Air Force History Personnel
on Review of "Interdiction in Southern
Laos, 1960-68"

25X1
1. The Classification Review Division hosted a meeting with personnel from the U.S. Air Force, Office of Air Force History (Bolling Field) on Friday afternoon, 14 September 1984 in Room 322 Ames Building. Present from the Air Force Office of History were Dr. Richard Kohn and his deputy, Colonel Fred Shiner. [REDACTED] represented CRD. The IROs or both the DI and DO were invited but preferred to await the outcome of this initial meeting. (C)

2. The subject of the discussion was Mr. Jacob van Staaveren's manuscript titled, "Interdiction in Southern Laos 1960-68," to which CIA had posed serious objections in an OIS letter of 13 August 1984. (U)

3. The Air Force opened the discussion by mentioning their reason for this series and belief in its importance, namely, the heavy interest in interdiction in the Defense Community and a desire to learn from experience. To this end, there are continuing discussions on whether it is possible to cut off supplies to an enemy force, whether paramilitary or conventional, by air attacks alone. The reason they do not want a series of this importance to be classified is that classification loses for them a large part of their natural reading audience. There is a lack of facilities

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INTELLIGENCE SOURCES
AND METHODS INVOLVED



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for storing classified material in the field, consequently many classified non-op and non-immediate items are not even sent out. In addition, there is a tendency on the part of many personnel to lock classified material in a safe and forget about it. On

25X1 [redacted] suggestion that if this were the case, it might be better to eliminate mention of CIA and its activities in order to keep the history unclassified. Colonel Shiner stated that such an action could make the history an incomplete or pointless recounting, for "After all, the targets were selected by CIA and other intelligence organizations!" (U)

4. The Air Force had two requests to make. First, they wanted a chance for Colonel Shiner to be able to sit down with CIA analysts and go over the points in dispute individually, and on a case-by-case basis work out a text satisfactory to both sides. Second, Dr. Kohn asked if there wasn't some way CIA could accelerate the return of Air Force manuscripts to his office. The Air War in Laos manuscript had been in CIA hands for almost two years. (U)

5. It was pointed out that while we might be able to work out compromises on some of the individual objections, the major objection to printing this history in unclassified form at this time is based on foreign relations considerations and that falls within the purview of the Department of State. Dr. Kohn replied that the Air Force was also working with State, and hoped to gain their concurrence in the publication of the history in unclassified form. We apologized for the delay in processing this manuscript and pointed out that this history gave us many problems that complicated the coordination process. (U)

6. It was agreed to have Colonel Shiner work with [redacted] on the individual points in the manuscript. We made clear, however, that even if such adjustments could be made, our overall agreement was conditional on State's concurrence in the release of this history at this time. The Air Force mentioned that they are also now working on two similar histories in this area, and that one of them, on Northern Laos, might possibly present us with some problems. (U)

7. We informed the DO/IRO of the above arrangements and he raised no objection. He is concerned about the recent period covered in this history, and for that reason suggested that we take a very conservative line in deciding classification questions particularly where persons may be identified. (U)



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25X1

DDA/OIS/CRD

(19 Sep 84)

Distribution:

Orig - DI/IRO

1 - DO/IRO

✓ 1 - CRD Liaison w/Air Force

1 - CRD Chrono

Col. ~~Fred~~ Shiner A.F. History Off

Dr. Richard Kohn

c/ Air Force History Information

767 5764

Col Shiner will call for meeting re 25X1
m/s we reviewed. Call
Lou to participate if they wish.

Liaison Air Force

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

C/CRD
322 Ames

EXTENSION

NO.

STAT

23 August 1984

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1. DO/IRO
1D4135 Has.
Attn [redacted]

2.

Lou -

3.

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15.

I received a call from Dr. Richard Kohn, Office of Air Force History, asking if he and his deputy Col. Fred Shiner could visit us to discuss our class review of that AF manuscript "Interdiction in Laos, 1960-1968." He appears to want a better feel for what we are doing to protect information. I told him that we would be happy to have them visit. He said that Col. Shiner would be in touch.

Would you and/or another rep from your shop like to attend? In any case, I will inform you as soon as I am contacted.

C/CRD

Also sent to
[redacted]
date

STAT
same

Meeting set for
1:30 on 14 Sept.

Informed [redacted] on 5 Sep. [redacted] wants to attend and will leave

STAT

STAT

AP

Reasons for declassification

Audience

in field

in 1/2.

Elimination of classified
mention of

Col. Shiner to sit down with

for review.

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2	0	e
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unimportant
to me

Time - You apologized

You agreed to how. Shiner

Approved For Release 2005/08/16 : CIA-RDP93B01194R001300010004-3

willing

Overall tone - very cool